GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1252
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2001
WAR AMONG PRIVATE TV CHANNELS
SANAT KUMAR MANDAL

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the ongoing war among the private television channels which has badly hit the consumers;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to protect the consumer interests;

(c) whether the Government are considering to set up a regulatory body on the lines of TRAI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a): It has come to the notice of the Government that there is increasing competition between the various private channels.

(b) to (d): In addition to application of provisions of the recent amendments to Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, vide Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Act, 2000, other relevant laws of the land like Consumer Protection Act and Monopoly and Restrictive Trade Practices Act are also available to protect the interests of viewers. As reported recently in the newspapers, the Monopoly & Restrictive Trade Practices Commission had issued notices to TV networks forovercharging subscribers of pay channels.